

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for enabling a securing strap to reliably secure a container comprising:

a hook portion having an opening disposed to engage ~~[[the]]~~ an upper portion of a container;

a loop portion with an end attached to a shank portion and disposed to be below said hook portion, said loop portion comprising an opening for receiving a strap therethrough, said loop portion including a section disposed to prevent downward motion of a strap within said opening.

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hook portion is an inverted U-shape where ~~[[the]]~~ a horizontal portion of the U-shaped hook section has a length approximately ~~[[the]]~~ a thickness of the upper portion of the container the hook portion is to engage.

3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hook portion is an inverted U-shape where ~~[[the]]~~ a horizontal portion of the U-shaped hook section has a length less than ~~[[the]]~~ a thickness of the upper portion of the container the hook portion is to engage.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the loop portion includes an elongated opening disposed to receive said strap.
5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the loop portion is generally triangular.
6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ a length of a catch section of the hook is approximately three times ~~[[the]]~~ a length of a top engaging section.
7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hook portion and loop portion are integral portions of a one-piece unit.
8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the loop portion is made by welding an end of round rod back onto ~~[[the]]~~ a shank of the apparatus.
9. (Currently Amended) A system for restraining an open-top container within a walled cargo compartment, said system comprising:

an elongated strap having a length that is changeable to be approximately ~~[[the]]~~ a length of three sides of said container, at least one end of said strap having a mechanical attachment detachably affixing at least one end of said strap to an interior wall of said walled cargo container;

a strap movement-restraining member having a hook portion disposed to engage ~~[[the]]~~ an upper portion of a container, said hook portion being generally an inverted U-shape with ~~[[the]]~~ a horizontal portion of the U-shaped section having a length approximately the thickness of the upper portion of the container, said restraining member further having a loop portion with an end attached to a shank portion and disposed to be below said hook portion, said loop portion comprising an opening for receiving said strap therethrough, said loop portion completely surrounding said strap within said opening.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of securing a container to a wall, comprising:

placing a container having four sides with one side abutting the wall;

providing a strap detachably affixable to the wall;

providing a strap movement-restraining member on ~~the~~ an upper edge of the container, the strap movement-restraining member having a hook portion for engaging said upper edge and a loop portion with an end attached to a shank portion for receiving said strap, said loop portion having an opening surrounding said strap;

affixing a first end of said strap to the wall;

passing a second end of said strap through the opening in ~~[[the]]~~ a removable loop portion;

affixing the second strap end to the wall to exert a force on said container primarily in a direction toward said wall.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 including the step of changing ~~[[the]]~~ a length of said strap before securing the second strap end to the wall.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10 including the step of changing ~~[[the]]~~ a length of said strap after securing the second strap end to the wall.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein said strap is non-elastic and has an adjustable length.

14. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein said strap is elastic such that said strap has an adjustable length.

15. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the strap movement-restraining member is made of round rod stock with one end welded back on itself to form the opening of the loop portion.